The Renaissance (“Early Modernism” or “The Age of Discovery”)

1453-1600

1453

* was fall of Constantinople, otherwise known as the fall of the Roman Empire
* Also end of the 100 year war

**Early**: Adds new material onto old, the Gregorian Chant, with clear harmonic structures revealing a preference for new consonances of the 3rd and 6th (Brass instruments used with voices)

* Guillaume Du Fay (c. 1400-1474) [CD1 - #7]

**High**: Declamation and Points of Imitation used, as well as a popular tune for each part of the Mass Ordinary

* Josquin des Prez (1440-1521) [CD1 - #11]
* Martin Luther (1483-1546)

**Late**: Giovannia Pierluigi da Palestrina (1526-1594): His style of composition was stimulated by the action of the “Council of Trent” (1547-1563) and the atmosphere of the Counter-Reformation, established inresponse to the Protestant Reformation.

* Palestrina: “Agnus Dei” from Pope Marcellus Mass [CD1 - #12]

**Humanism**: the belief in the power and importance of human beings and their achievements (Pride) – was an outlook that fueled the Renaissance. It led to outlooks still common in our culture: optimism, worldliness, hedonism (pleasure for the sake of pleasure), naturalism (everything depicted with proportion), individualism.

Declamation: when a composer tries to declame music like normal words and speaking.

Italy:

* Divided into several city-states.
  + This left them open to a lot of attacks and insurgents
  + Hatred between city-states. Assassination was common between rulers of city-states
  + Competed between everything
* Venice is a very powerful city-state
  + Had world’s largest navy and largest mercenary army at time
* Humanism came about, and everything is based off of this from here on out